STATEMENT OF ACTING CHAIRWOMAN MIGNON CLYBURN

Re: Toll Free Service Access Codes, CC Docket No. 95-155; Petition to Change the Composition of SMS/800, Inc., WC Docket No. 12-260.

The Commission's action today broadens the membership of the organization that oversees distribution of toll free numbers. This change reflects that a wide array of entities have a direct stake in obtaining toll free numbers, and the order will ensure that toll free numbers continue to be distributed on a fair and impartial basis, which benefits consumers and the public interest. More significantly, our action demonstrates that the Commission understands that toll free numbers play an increasingly critical role in the success of businesses, non-profit organizations and others, and that access to numbers offers opportunities for economic growth. The way that toll free numbers are used has changed dramatically since the Commission first implemented toll free numbering rules nearly 15 years ago. This order represents one step in incorporating those changes into our regulations so that they more closely reflect the current marketplace.